

on page 328, it would bring LB 128 in compliance, as I understand it, with the Department of Labor relating to what is a seasonal employee. I want to be very honest and candid with you. If this particular amendment is adopted and if the bill is adopted as being applicable to the seasonal workers, there would be some workers that would be affected by this and they would not be able to draw unemployment benefits except during that season that they were determined to be as provided by the amendment and the one that I would want you to know about would be probably the alfalfa industry and I think that you should be aware of it, and if you think this is of merit, then you could vote for it, of course, and if you don't, surely oppose it. The bill was brought to me by and copied from some Colorado law. It was, as I mentioned, not in compliance with the Federal Department of Labor but this determination allowing the employer to elect as to whether they were a seasonal employee or not does bring it into that area. Again I want to repeat to you that those persons working in an industry that would be labeled seasonal would be defined here and would be ineligible to draw unemployment unless they were laid off during that season of employment, which as the bill states, would be 25 weeks. That is the amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Are you going to speak for Senator Brennan? Your light is on, Senator Fitzgerald. All right. Excuse me. Senator Brennan.

SENATOR BRENNAN: I have no light or voice, that is my problem.

PRESIDENT: I beg your pardon.

SENATOR BRENNAN: I have no light or voice. My light doesn't work.

PRESIDENT: Would you trust Senator Fitzgerald to speak for you?

SENATOR BRENNAN: I don't think Fitz or I know anybody who is a seasonal worker. I don't think Fitz has any more knowledge about it than I do but this is not in compliance. If a guy works 25 weeks a year and goes out and works another 25 weeks a year some place else, he still can't collect it. That is what this bill does and it will take him out of compliance just as much as the original bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis. Senator Shirley Marsh. All right. Would you want to close, Senator Mills?

SENATOR MILLS: I really was hoping that Senator Brennan would be able to speak to it and those who are opposed to the amendment and, of course, the bill. There are some points in the bill that I think are very important, and if there are those who would oppose the bill because of this seasonal part, then I would ask them to delete that part and address those parts that are very serious to employers in the State of Nebraska. I think that it does have merit. I think that it does meet the requirements as put out by the U. S. Department of Labor and I would differ with Senator Brennan and his description of that. However, I would ask that, if it be moved from General File to Select File, there be a determination made in all fairness to Senator Brennan's concern about this. So if not, I would ask you to adopt the amendment.